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TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 1908.

When Taft Is at His Desk.

The Taft boom had things all its own
way in the columns of the Abingdon (Va.)
Republican last week. The first page
Taft is "our next President," on the sec-
ond he carries the State of Virginia, on
the third he captures the Floyd County
delegates, and on the last page he is
seen gazing out into the future, hearing
the "rumble of millions of voters beyond."
There is a long interview with a cosmic
being, in Mr. Hitchcock's best vein,
wherein we get a glimpse of Greatness:

"He is a tawny, sunburned, leonine giant,
with the hearty laugh of a Gloucester boatman; a learned
and apostolic head, with the story of a kindly life
written in gentle wrinkles about his eyes.

"He has a military mien and a bold neck.
Under his coat you can imagine Michael Angelo's
biopsy. He has an air of suppleness and solidity, and
a glance kindly but penetrating. His hands are
broad and strong, with square, short fingers. All
together he is a big and aggressive man, having about
him an atmosphere of activity and ambition.

"He does things quickly and decisively.
A procession of sublimity fits in and out of his
eyes like a submarine around a lighthouse. You are
impressed with the conviction that he is a very
large wheel in the complicated machinery of the gov-
ernment.

"In profile he looks enough like the American
eagle to be the proud bird of freedom's twin brother.
This is an advantage possessed by no other Presi-
dential candidate. His nose is hooked and majestic,
his eyes blue and keen."

This personage was discovered in the
city of Washington, on March 22, be-
hind a flat-topped desk, littered with pa-
pers and formidable-looking documents,
evidently a rare occasion. We learn that
it is "no trivial matter to approach" this
bull-necked giant, with the apostolic head
and the beak of an American eagle. Yet,
when approached, he "threw up his hands
deprecatingly," abjectly, quickly, achieving
a triumph of the interviewer's art.

Twin brother of the proud bird of free-
dom! Why rub it in on the other candi-
dates—"This is an advantage possessed by
no other?" We should think them suffi-
ciently handicapped by the Gloucester
boatman's laugh, the Michael Angelo-
esque biopsies, the big nose and ageless-
ness of the Superman who now and then
sits behind the flat-topped desk aforesaid.
There is no chance for them at all in
the rear of the tawny, sun-burned
giant with the majestic nose.

As the Kaiser doesn't have to be elected
to his job, we can't see how the Tweed-
mouth letter and the Dr. Hill indis-
cretion are to be made campaign issues.

Our New Policy in Manchuria.

The State Department has adopted an
attitude with respect to Chinese sov-
ereignty in Manchuria that promises to be
fruitful of international contention. It is
significant that in Peking our position is
regarded as "intervention" in behalf of
Chinese claims to Manchurian territory
and to exclusive exercise of administra-
tive authority therein. But, of course,
we have intervened principally for our
own advantage, which is to be found in
the preservation of the "open door" and
the maintenance of equality of opportu-
nity to all nations in competition for
Manchurian trade.

The new policy has been developed by
the refusal of our consuls to recognize in
Manchuria any other sovereignty than
that of China. In this we have accepted
the theory of the Chinese government
that its jurisdiction over the whole of
Manchuria is unquestioned. So far we
have heard nothing of the Japanese side
of the affair, but the Russian side has
been set forth in cable dispatches from
St. Petersburg and in a statement issued
by Baron Rosen, the Russian Ambassa-
dor to the United States. Briefly, it is
that under the terms of an agreement of
the Russo-Chinese Bank, controlling the
Chinese Eastern Railway, with the Chi-
nese government, the railway authorities
have the right of administration in the
territory leased by them. This agreement
appears to have been interpreted to con-
fer the right to establish Russian munici-
palities along the railroad right of way,
enjoying, as Baron Rosen says, an extra-
territorial independence of Chinese juris-
diction. The Russian Ambassador asserts
that the principle of Chinese sovereignty
is in no way involved in the organization
of municipal administration in the Rus-
sian settlements at Harbin and elsewhere
along the line of the railway, but evi-
dently that view is not shared either by
the Chinese or by the American govern-
ment, or by Germany, whose consul at
Harbin has taken the same attitude as
our own representative. It is obvious
that if the Russian contention were ac-
knowledgeed by the Chinese, the Japanese
would have good ground for demanding
the same right of establishing extra-
territorial colonies enjoyed by the Russians,
with the ultimate consequence of greatly
diminishing the sphere of Chinese sov-
ereignty throughout that portion of Man-
churia traversed by the railway, which is
partly under Russian and partly under
Japanese control.

Our "intervention" in behalf of Chinese
sovereignty in Manchuria marks a con-
siderable development of the "open door"
policy in the Orient. In times gone by
we have shown a disposition to acquiesce
in the spheres of influence and other ar-
rangements by which other powers have
exercised a quasi-sovereignty over vari-
ous portions of Chinese territory, pro-
vided no discrimination was made
against American trade. This was Mr.
Hay's attitude in 1899. In 1905, however,
Mr. Hay went a step further, and re-
quired the assent of the powers to a re-
nunciation of territorial ambitions in
China, thus preventing the dismember-
ment of the Celestial Empire that was
feared might be the outcome of the
 Russo-Japanese war. The treaty of peace
expressly recognized the sovereignty of

China in Manchuria, excepting over the
Liao-tung peninsula. Our present dispo-
sition appears to be to insist that this
sovereignty shall be respected by both
Russia and Japan, instead of accepting
the situation created in Manchuria by
the evident unwillingness of these na-
tions, acting more or less in concert, to
let go the grip they now have on that
opulent and important province. It is a
far cry from Mr. Hay's frank accept-
ance of foreign spheres of influence to
an equally frank support of Chinese sov-
ereignty in territory once thought to have
passed completely under the domination
of Russia.

Probably our consular protest against
Russian local jurisdiction will result in
declarations on the part of both Russia
and Japan that they have no intention of
impairing the sovereign rights of China
in Manchuria. A hint to this effect has
already come from St. Petersburg, and is
echoed by Baron Rosen, who considers
the whole matter a local complication in-
capable of settlement without raising any
international question. That may prove
true as to the particular issue between
our consul and the Russian governor of
Harbin, but the larger issue involved is
one that contains possibilities of embroil-
ment of a serious character, and is not
likely to be permanently settled in a sat-
isfactory way by paper declarations of
intention that may or may not carry with
them any actual alteration of conditions.

Some day, perhaps, the people may de-
spair of Congress revising the tariff. In
that event, it shouldn't surprise us to see
the tariff revised.

Commemorating Crosby S. Noyes.

At the notable and impressive public
meeting on Sunday, when the memory of
Crosby S. Noyes was honored in a fitting
and signal way, both Vice President Mac-
farland and District Commissioner Mac-
farland suggested that the great editor of
the day and achievements should be com-
memorated in stone or bronze here at the
Capital of the Nation. Already these sug-
gestions are bearing fruit. The nucleus of
a fund for such a monument or tablet is
in hand. Commissioner Macfarland an-
nounced his readiness to receive and ac-
knowledge contributions to the worthy
object, and the immediate responses
clearly bespeak the popularity of the
idea.

All Washington should feel and take
an active interest in this project, and we
are sure the entire community does or
will. It should be pushed to speedy con-
summation. Let action be not deferred—
organized action. The time to act is now.
In commemorating such a man as Crosby
S. Noyes, whose life was so inter-
woven with the city's growth and good
government, the Capital will likewise
honor itself and add to its own glory.

"Reformers never get anywhere," says
Speaker Cannon. Sometimes they get as
far as the Speaker; seldom beyond, how-
ever.

Race-track Gambling.

The Board of District Commissioners,
through its president and counsel, has
given District Attorney Baker some law
to digest and some cold facts to con-
sider, even if he does not choose to digest
and consider the same.

Where there is a will usually there is
to be found a way. Commissioner Mac-
farland, having the will, found and pointed
out the way, but the district attorney
failed to see it.

The correspondence on this matter—the
public gambling at Benning—is printed
to-day, and The Washington Herald com-
mends it to its readers as worthy careful
perusal. Simultaneously there appears a
speech by Gov. Hughes on the race-track
evil, which further illuminates a sub-
ject in which this Capital City is deeply
interested.

The Philadelphia Public Ledger, editor-
ially discussing the evil, says:

"There is no reason to believe that in the absence
of a coterie of gamblers racing could not flourish.
If experience shall show that it cannot be sustained
unless desired to the promotion of crime, better that the
race track in the land be closed. The lower
of a good horse would have his nose none the less
because a lot of gamblers had been driven out of
his business of preying. A sport founded on false
pretense and flourishing in iniquity need not appeal
to the public as a legitimate function, for the public
knows better."

It is gratifying to know that the in-
dustry business is flourishing for the
last time in the District of Columbia,
and is certainly doomed throughout the
country.

"Congressman Hobson now imagines a
war between Japan and England," says
the Springfield Union. We suppose, how-
ever, this new scare's life is limited to
the Congressional recess.

"Washington"—That's All.

In discussing editorially the recent Hel-
lin incident in this city, the Augusta
(Ga.) Herald says:

"Not all Northern papers condemn him. The
fairer and clearer-headed among them see the matter
in its true light. Among these is The Washington
Herald, which, in discussing this incident, says, 'He
is all right, and The Washington Herald is glad its
friend in Dixie approves his opinions, and thinks them
marked by fairness and clear-headedness. But the
Washington Herald does not relish being classed as
either 'Northern' or 'Eastern,' nor sectional in any
degree, or inclination. It prefers to be classed as a
Washington institution, when it is classified at all."

Washington is on the borderland. Its
citizenship is largely composed of individuals
and families from all sections. It is
the Nation's Capital. Here there is every-
thing honest and liberal to be found and liberal
toward any part of this great nation.
Every possible shade of opinion is to be
had here. There is very little excuse for
prejudice or warped conclusions, if one
exercises intelligent effort to obtain
expressions of feeling. The people's rep-
resentatives come to Washington from all
the States in the Union. Those who are
thrown into contact with them soon learn
that there is a fine fraternal feeling bind-
ing the people of this land into one
brotherhood under the Stars and Stripes;
that, after all, "Uncle Sam" has a most
clever and a most interesting family, af-
fectionately disposed and big-hearted, in
spite of occasional internal domestic
spats.

So, if our contemporaries please, we'd
rather not be classed "Northern," "East-
ern," or anything else save just "Wash-
ington." That means everything to us;
absolutely, if you please.

That's the way we feel about Wash-
ington; and that's the way we want the
nation to feel about it.

"The mayor of Timpson, Tex., gets a
salary of \$1 a year," says the Richmond
Times-Dispatch. We decline to comment,
however, until we learn whether that is
all he gets!

A contemporary says "the original
'Nero' of the South has been found." Why,
surely, in fact, we confidently expect to
meet several thousand of her within the
next two or three years.

"I have just come from hades," said
a stranger, as registered at a Hotel-
ton, Tex., hotel a few days since. Some
people, of course, will go from bad to

worse, in spite of everything kind-
hearted and well-informed newspapers
can do!

If under the pure food law it ever
becomes possible to make apothecaries
tell the truth, there will be some mighty
shifting of halves in this country.

"Say, what does a deaf and dumb man
do when he smashes his finger with a
hammer?" asked the Montezuma Ad-
vertiser. We don't know. Nobody we
ever saw smash his finger with a ham-
mer gave the slightest evidence of being
deaf and dumb!

Capt. Oberlin Carter says he is a "sec-
ond Dreyfus." Dreyfus, however, has had
to stand for so many hard things that
he may not especially mind this.

A Southern baseball league is advocat-
ing female umpires. That would in-
sure the umpire the last word, both
theoretically and actually.

Chattanooga has just opened one of the
finest hotels in the entire United States—the
Patten—and the populace is delighted;
and well it may be, the hotel being a
million dollar structure. Moreover, Chat-
tanooga claims that it may open a few
more of the same style, provided it is
permitted to serve as the principal oasis
for Georgia and Alabama a few years
more.

The Boston Transcript has discovered
an actress who won't pay for certain
photographs because they make her ap-
pear too pretty. It really does take a
smart press agent these days to dig up
something new in the way of advertising.

"Why not let Anna Gould go her way?"
asks the Chicago News. Well, she's
going, isn't she?

Still, even should Congress banish
mistletoe from the American forest, we
believe a satisfactory substitute would be
at once invented.

"A Pennsylvania man has completed a
patchwork quilt with 11,846 pieces," says
the Philadelphia Journal. That man, we
fear, missed his calling. He should have
been a street paving and repairing super-
intendent.

It appears that there are two coffin
trusts, and a bitter warfare is said to
be impending between them. Let us hope
it will be a fight to the death of both.

"William Loeb, Jr., is a very quiet and
modest man," says the Milwaukee Banner.
This is a mistake. Everybody in Wash-
ington knows that Mr. Loeb is not less
than a dozen quiet and modest men.

"Lock me in a room with Boni—," be-
gins de Sagan. With pleasure, prince;
but, first, will some one please catch
Boni?

"I wouldn't indorse the note of a mock-
ing bird," says a Kansas City "lightwad."
He said, with safety; they never go to
protest.

The Bristol Herald-Courier duhs the
junior Senator from Arkansas, "Davis,
the little." Why not "but loud" also?

Tom Watson's Jeffersonian thinks the
Capital should be moved from Washington
to a point farther West. Are the Popu-
lists seeking to run down the old-age-
and-taxes microbe?

A physician has discovered that old age
is caused by a microbe. Who knows but
that we may yet run down the old-age-
and-taxes microbe?

It appears that a man named Parker
created the bulk of the anti-Bryan sen-
timent in the late Populist national con-
vention. Is that name to be Democracy's
hoedown?

A Berlin scientist says one fly left over
a million years along its way while walk-
ing across his breakfast plate. It would
appear wise to encourage these insects to
fly, rather than walk across your break-
fast plate.

SILVER'S VALUE FALLING.

Price of White Metal Cut in Half in
Forty Years.

From the Philadelphia Press.
In forty years the average price of
silver in both America and Europe has
been exactly cut in half. The price of
the metal at this particular moment is
considerably less than half what it was
immediately after the civil war. But the
average value of an ounce of silver in 1907
was just half its value in 1868.

During these four decades there has
been a tremendous increase in the yearly
output of silver, as the jump from 43,000,000
to 160,000,000 ounces shows. The greater
production the smaller the price—that
has been the rule.

Up until 1885 silver sold at a premium,
that is to say, it was worth more than
\$1 an ounce. Now it is about 55 cents.
The production of gold has grown far
more rapidly than that of silver. For
twenty years it has just about been mul-
tiplied by four.

Economists frequently assert that one
reason why commodities of all kinds have
fallen in price is the fact that this high point
is because of the amazing increase in the
volume of gold, which is the world's
standard of value. The more gold there
is to buy with the more of it must be
paid for any given object. That is the
theory, but it does not always bear the
test of analysis.

INQUIRY A MERE FARCE.

Tariff the Main Prop of the Print
Paper Combination.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

The whole history of the present tariff
on paper illustrates the manner in which
the principle of protection has been pro-
tected and maintained. Prior to the last
revision of the tariff there was practically
no importation of paper, and so no need
for further protection. Yet in spite of
specific warning to the Ways and
Means Committee that the manufacturers
were planning to consolidate and increase
the tariff was advanced from \$1.50 to
about \$5 a ton to the present rate of \$6.
Under this rate, which absolutely pro-
hibited imports, a combination was made
an easy matter, and it has enabled the
agreement in spite of all that the law of
the land of the government could do under
the anti-trust law. In the face of these
facts, the Speaker has the assurance to
propose nothing more than another "in-
quiry" into the evidence possessed by the
government and into the measures taken
against the paper trust. His action indi-
cates a very imperfect realization of the
drift of the times and of the meaning of
the signs of growing discontent through-
out the country with the "standpatters" and
their fatuous policy.

Forced Economy.

From the Kansas City Times.
Miss Helen Gould's retrenchment in her
numerous benefactions she attributes to
"present financial conditions." The pros-
pect of having another "nobelman" in the
family is enough to start a period of
strict economy in all the Gould house-
holds.

No Anti-baseball Injunctions.

From the Charleston News and Courier.
Interstate baseball is the only inter-
state industry not menaced as yet by the
Federal courts.

Just a Friendly Inquiry.

From the Baltimore Sun.
Editorial Speaker Cannon content that the
paper trust should be investigated by its
friends?

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

HARMLESS HAPPINESS.
When skies are dark
And damp the park
And winter is getting colder,
I'm glad, indeed,
To get and read
A pleasing steamship folder.

The way is plain
To sunny Spain.
You round Gibraltar's shoulder
And reach in time
The Grecian clime
As per the steamship folder.

Why sit at home
When others roam
Who are a trifle bolder?
Give care the slip
And take a trip
Just in the steamship folder.

The New Way.

"The duke and the helress are seen
much together."
"What of it?"
"I think we may safely expect denials
of an engagement soon."

Heroes Past and Present.

"All yer need is a little judgment to
git along wit' dogs."
"What's yer system?"
"I call em Togo if dey're old dogs, an'
Teddy if dey're pups."

Rialto Humor.

"As Romeo, I was over the heads of
the orchestra chairs. But—"
"The balcony seen?"

A Mixture.

Sunshine, snow, and skies agape
Together;
Just a sample lot of Ap-
ril weather.

A Wifely Scheme.

"Why nag yer husband so about that
carpet? He has agreed to beat it."
"Well, if he'll thoroughly irritate, he'll
make a much better job."

In the Edibles.

"The landlady's daughter has refused to
give me a lock of her hair."
"Cheer up," said the star boarder. "We
other folks at the table will pool our
funds, and I am sure we can soon ac-
cumulate quite a hank."

Quite So.

"New thought will beautify the plainest
girl."
"That may be, but very few girls are
going to give up lotions for notions."

JUST FROM GEORGIA.

From the Atlanta Constitution.

BLOWS HOT AND COLD.

You kept the fire blazing
In winter, right to rule,
An' now the weather's sayin':
"Keep cool, my friend; keep cool!"

You kept the coal trust goin',
An' so was Fortune's fool,
An' now the ice trust hits you:
"Keep cool, my friend; keep cool!"

See-saw life forever!
When it turns out school
You'll hear of Satan sayin':
"Keep cool, my friend; keep cool!"

The Old Philosopher.

"Well," said the old philosopher, "I
don't see much difference in havin' money
an' in not havin' it. When people know
you've got it, they're real hot to get it,
an' when they know you haven't, they're
not so hot to get it. They're just the same
if they're red-hot to fetch all the bills
they've got agin' you an' try to get it
anyhow! So, you see, it's a mortal war-
a-amin' an' agin'! Havin' it, or not
havin' it, you 'twixt the devil an' the
deep sea six days out of the week, an' no
rest on a Sunday. It ain't nothin' but
printed paper, an' yaller 'n' white metal,
an' yit, the world's almost stoppin' turnin'
round to look at it! It says it'll be a
friend to you, an' then don't stay with
you long enough to get acquainted good!
It's a devil, an' Satan hisself, though!
I must say that fear about this time I'd
like to see the deception of it come my
way. Such is human nature, fer which
we ain't responsible!"

A CHARACTER.

Never nuthin' like him
Any time o' day.
Lightnin' don't strike him
Kase he kept out of its way!

Knowned that wrong would never
Triumph over right,
In the deepest darkness
Saw the dawn o' light.

Still he kept a-goin'
Through the stormy blast,
Knowned that heaven was ewin'
The weary rest at last!

Too High for Him.

When they tried to get the Billville
citizen to go in the balloon, he said:
"No, I reckon not. High livin' never
did agree with me, an' I never want to
dis so high that I can't pick my place
to fall!"

Great weather, this! But the skies are
not half as blue as the poets who cannot
find a market for their spring songs.

Memories.

Birds singing in the blossoms!
Rivers rippling in melody;
Green meadows, and white clouds
In the bright blue of the sky;
The breath of dew-wet violets
And then—dreams! dreams!
And O for a lost springtime,
And love that is only memory.

Why the Armor Belt Is Low.

From Army and Navy Life.
The term "normal draft" was invented
solely for the benefit of shipbuilders, and
for no other purpose. With the upbuild-
ing of our navy, the shipbuilders were
granted a bonus of \$50,000 for each quar-
ter of a knot in excess of a certain re-
quired speed. Thus the speed of the
Columbia and Minneapolis required by
contract was 21 knots. On the trial trip
the Columbia made 22.8 knots, the Minne-
apolis over 23 knots, an hour, earning
bonuses of \$350,000 and \$400,000, respec-
tively. The ships could not have done this
except at a very high draft, and this was
the "normal draft" successfully insisted
upon by the shipbuilders. The evil of this
was not apparent with unarmored ships,
but the rule then adopted has always
been done away with, but "normal
draft" is still essential to the shipbuilder
whose product must be capable of a cer-
tain required speed. We are quite certain
that one of the results of this investiga-
tion will be to do away with this unreal,
incongruous, and meaningless except-to-
the-shipbuilder term.

A South American City.

From the Columbia Record-Herald.
How does it strike the American people
to read that Buenos Ayres has a popu-
lation of over 1,000,000, and that it has
a finer system of docks and wharves, a
more costly and beautiful opera house,
a larger club, and a more extensive news-
paper plant than any city in the United
States, and that at the wharves may be
seen scores of merchant vessels flying the
flag of every important nation on the
globe except the United States?

Material Nearer Home.

From the Philadelphia North American.
A college professor is going to Mindanao
to look for lost races. Coney is a great
deal nearer the place where the races are
lost.

Riches Not Everything.

From the Providence Journal.
Riches and domestic felicity are not in-
terchangeable terms.

CAPITOL GOSSIP.

From Drumore, County of Down, in the
North of Ireland, hails Hon. Samuel Mc-
Millan, Representative from the Twenty-
first district of New York. When three
years old, his parents
came to this country
and took up their resi-
dence in New York
City, remaining there
six years. He then
went to Niles, Ohio,
where he attended
school, worked on a
farm and in the coal
mine until he was six-
teen years old. He
couldn't stay away
from New York City
any longer, and re-
turning there in 1895,
took up the trade of
carpenter. The am-
bition of the foreign-
born young man could
not be kept down, and
though toiling hard all
the night and day, he studied archi-
tecture at night and, at the age of twenty,
embarked in business for himself.
His success from that time was phenom-
enal in the business world. At the age of
twenty-four he was elected a director in
the West Side Bank; and at the present
time is vice president of the Bronx-
Borough Bank and of the Washington
Savings Bank, and director of the Mutual
Bank of New York City. He is also vice
president of the Ryan-Parker Construc-
tion Company, contractors for the Man-
hattan Bridge over the East River from
New York to Brooklyn.

Under Mayor Strong's administration,
Mr. McMillan was for three years presi-
dent of the board of park commissioners,
and for twelve years prior to that was
a member of the board of examiners of
the building department, New York City.
This is his first Congress, winning his
election after a hard fight against the
Democratic and Independence League can-
didate.

Representative McMillan is on the Dis-
trict of Columbia Committee, and his
service under the city government of
New York makes him a valuable member
of the committee. He is also on Com-
mittee on Coinage, Weights and Measures.

The members of the House Committee
on Banking and Currency are playing
diabolo with the Aldrich currency bill.
It is not known when it will be reported,
but when it is, its passage is assured,
with some amendments. The La Follette
amendment will be stricken out, and the
amendment of Senator Nelson relating
to a tax of 1 per cent to be paid by the
banks securing deposits of government
money, will stand. That is the matter
of a tax will stand, but it is barely pos-
sible that the House committee will slight-
ly reduce the amount of tax to be paid.

Representative Fowler, the chairman of
the committee, is in love with his
bill, and thinks it would pass, but he is
only one of a very few in favor of the
measure as prepared by him.

Senator Gore, of Oklahoma, succeeded
in having the Oklahoma flag bill passed
in the Senate. It will be remembered that
a flag with forty-six stars flew from the
House flagstaff weeks ago, and it should
not have been unfurled until July 4.

A number of Senators quizzed the blind
Senator about the untimely occurrence,
but it did not bother him one bit, and
when Senator Burkett asked him if it was
that a flag had been made and flown be-
hind the lawful time, he answered: "That
doesn't make any difference, and has
nothing to do with this matter; the star
is there, and will stay there."

Senator Gore is always rather caustic
in his answers to questions, and displays
some impatience when interrupted in his
remarks.

The effect of the letters sent out Sunday
by the party "whips" was apparent in
the House of Representatives. Nearly
every seat was taken, and the vote on
the employers' liability bill showed an
absentee list of only ninety members.
Not only that, but every one seemed to
be busy and on the jump. It was hushed
and hushed everywhere, with